



# FARM & RANCH FAMILY SPOTLIGHT

## The Duecker Family from Region VI

by Cassandra Bennett

The folks at McCoy's Building Supply understand that it takes a lot of hard work and the whole family pitching in to get things done on a farm or ranch. That's why we'd like to take some time out to salute Texas High School Rodeo Association families who are farmers and ranchers. In our monthly Farm & Ranch Family Spotlight, we'll feature one family, sharing their story of how they work together as a family to make their farm or ranch successful. The spotlight will run for 10 months; each month will feature a different region. One of the spotlighted families will be selected to participate in a McCoy's Building Supply Farm & Ranch photo shoot in San Marcos, Texas. Each Regional McCoy's Farm and Ranch Family will receive a \$100 McCoy's Gift Card. The McCoy's Farm and Ranch Family of the Year will be receive a \$500 McCoy's Gift Card and will be announced at the 2009 THSRA State Finals.

**K**risten Duecker, a member of the Texas High School Rodeo Association, and her family have been named Region VI McCoy's Farm and Ranch Family! The Duecker family consist Jimmy and Emily Duecker and their children, twins Katelyn and Kristen. Located in Stonewall, Texas, this family have owned and operated Duecker's Orchards since 1955, an orchard that encompasses about 200 acres of 12,000 peach trees, and a peach stand named Burg's Corner. The Duecker's also cultivate a coastal crop and own about 50 cattle on their land. Along with their agriculture businesses, the Duecker's own Allied Ag. Inc., a feed and fertilizer shop in operation since 1969.

With tasks ranging from harvesting fruit, plowing the orchards, trimming and watering the trees, selling and packing fruit, feeding and caring for the livestock, bringing in sales at both Allied Ag. Inc. and Burg's Corner, and buying all the necessary materials at McCoy's to keep business performance high, responsibilities at each of the family businesses is divided up between all family

members. Katelyn and Kristen also help out by checking on cattle and working in the retail room of Burg's Corner marketing all the produce. But, as Kristen noted, "The farm has been in our family business for generations, so we're used to that lifestyle."

So how does a busy family such as the Duecker's spend their free time? Texas High School Rodeo, of course! THSRA has affected the daily lives of the Duecker family by allowing them to have a mini-vacation at the weekend rodeos, where Kristen competes in Barrel Racing and Pole Bending. THSRA has also helped Kristen become more involved with the farm. The Duecker's also enjoy traveling, stock shows, and little local BBQ's.

Congratulations Duecker Family for being named the Region VI McCoy's Farm and Ranch Family!



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